



*Congresswoman Bean listens to local small business owners at the Small Business Federal Resources Seminar.*

Each July, citizens across America come together to celebrate the birth of our nation and the freedoms we cherish. The patriotism of 8th District residents was on display this summer at festivities across the northwest suburban region. Congresswoman Bean marched in Independence Day parades in Hoffman Estates, Barrington, Spring Grove, and Wonder Lake before attending a picnic in Third Lake. Even with the Fourth of July behind us, the summer weather and intense community pride provide Illinois residents plenty of occasions to celebrate. Later in the month, the Congresswoman marched in the Fiesta Days parade in McHenry and the Alpine Days parade in Lake Zurich and enjoyed a day at the 25th annual Woodstock Folk Festival.

Congresswoman Bean also hosted her third [Small Business Federal Resources Seminar](#) . This month's event was hosted at Mundelein High School in Lake County and connected business owners with representatives from federal and state agencies as well as local non-profit organizations. Topics covered included loan programs and other capital issues, tax incentives, benefits available to small businesses under the recently passed health care reform legislation, workforce development programs, export and trade assistance, and grants and incentives related to energy. While in Washington, the Congresswoman hosted a series of telephone town hall meetings to update her constituents about issues before Congress.